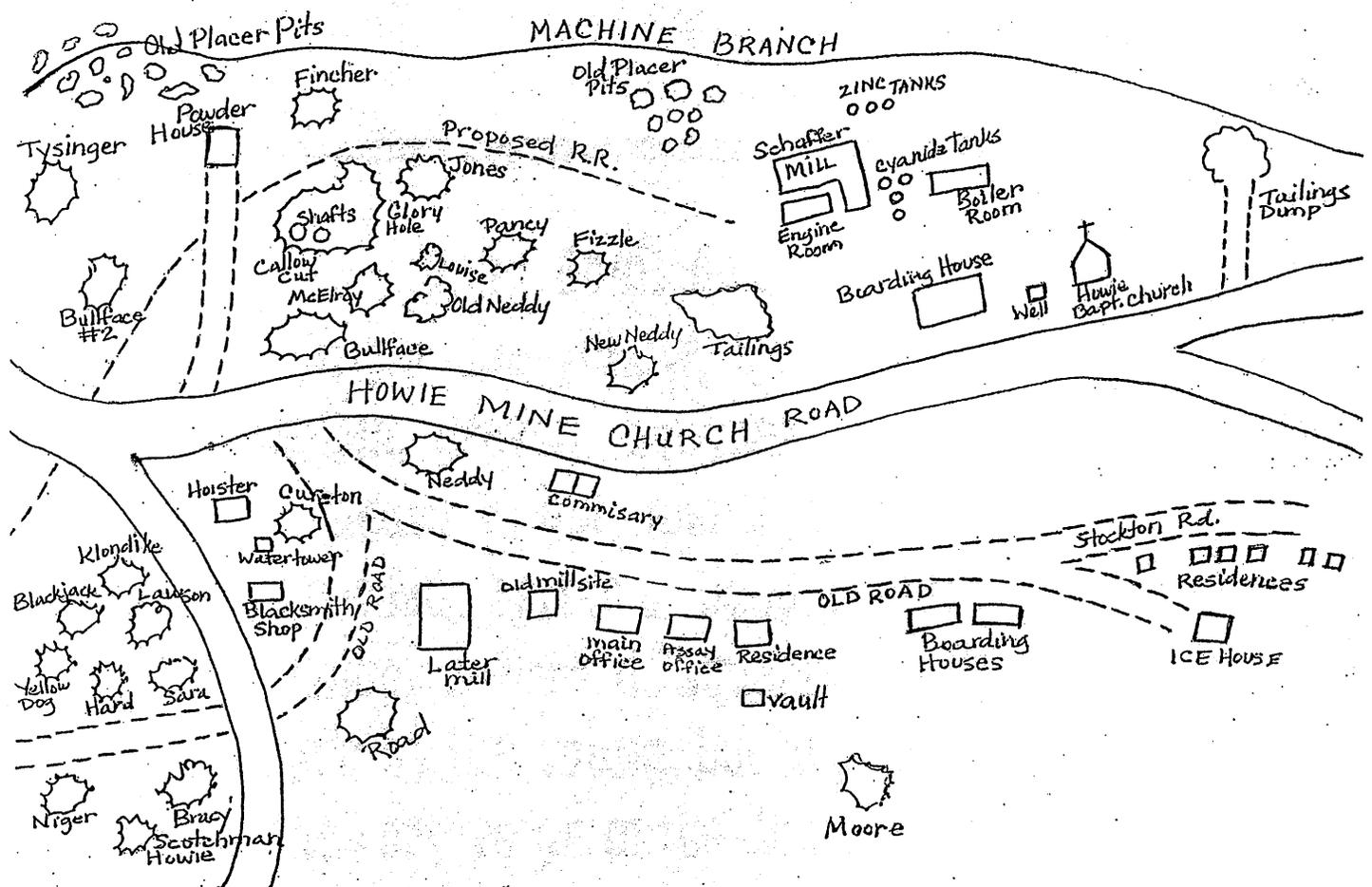


The History
of
Howie Gold Mine
And
Bonnie Belle Mine

By
Bill Howie

HOWIE MINE LAYOUT



FOREWARD

The purpose in writing this paper is to gather, in one place and to preserve the history of Howie Gold Mine before it becomes forever lost, and to leave to those who come in future generations the heritage of gold mining in Union County and the part it has played in our development.

The story found within these pages represents a vast amount of research on the parts of several persons. Two persons, besides the writer, played very significant roles in both supplying research and memories. Kathy Pierce did her college research on the mine and has contributed much valuable material from the early stages of development until the recent part. Newspaper articles and interviews with past owners and workers have been helpful. Also, Reverend George Lee Broome has provided much information regarding the physical layouts, shaft locations, and buildings that were present in the 1930's, when he worked there. He has also provided personal memories about what it was like down in the mine and the work down there. This material is included in the addendum to this paper. Other sources are identified in a bibliography found at the back of the paper.

Telephone calls, visits, conversations, mailings and interviews have provided much "fill-in" material to that which had been incomplete. A thorough research of the Register of Deeds' files revealed much. Since quite a few deeds were not recorded in the early years, our story leaves a little to the logic and imagination of the reader.

Sincere appreciation goes to all that have provided helpful information, so that we together, could present relatively complete and factual information.

If, in the future, any new material is uncovered, it can easily be added to the writings.

GOLD!!!

This one word has stirred the imagination of mankind throughout history, causing mass movements of people, creating new towns almost overnight, bringing untold riches to some and leaving others penniless and distraught. While the more dramatic writings of gold discovery in America have dealt with the gold rush toward California, in the 1850's, Little Meadow Creek in Cabarrus County in North Carolina was the site of the first recorded find of gold in America and what a find it was!

John Reed's son, Conrad, while playing in the creek in 1799, found a seventeen pound gold nugget. The nugget, which Reed found, served him as a doorstep before he knew it was gold.

It was then, in the early 1800's, that he began to search the creek with some success and finding other nuggets. It has been said that a twenty-eight pound nugget was found in the area. For a number of years, the searching was done in the creeks by various methods. However, in 1825, a prospector named Matthis Barringer discovered that the gold in the creek was coming out of a vein embedded in the creek bank and leading away from it. This vein ultimately yielded over \$13,000 worth of gold. This discovery led to new ways of searching - digging along the vein outside the creek.

These first digs would be the open pit style instead of the vertical shaft, something which would soon follow.

Word spread quickly, even to Europe, which led to the influx of thousands pouring into North Carolina during the first thirty years of the nineteenth century. An 1830 official report showed 30,000 searching for gold in this state. Land prices jumped thirty times in some places. So, for the record, the first "Gold Rush" was not in California but here, not ten miles from Union County. This activity caused the state

legislature to begin granting charters, in 1827, to mining operations. As a further indicator of the size of this "Gold Rush", the 1850 census showed mining second only to farming, in employment. This activity eventually led to the discovery of a 130 mines in North Carolina, with 30 of them located in Union County.

A mint was established in Charlotte, in 1837, as a result of the rush. This mint operated until the Civil War when the Confederates took it over as a headquarters. By 1861, it had coined \$5 million worth of gold. After the war, Federal forces occupied it until 1869 when it was turned into an assay office. During those times all gold mined did not go to the Federal mint. Much trading was done with gold dust or nuggets as legal tender. It was said that almost every man carried with him a goose quill or two of it, also a small pair of scales in a box like a spectacle case. An example of an exchange - a pint of whiskey for 3½ grams.

The output of these local mines put Union County into being the top producer of gold in the state, at different periods.

Of all the thirty known diggings in Union County, the Howie Mine emerged as the best known and most highly developed. During its long history, it became North Carolina's largest producer of gold in the early 1940's. Production records are incomplete, however, local research has brought the following reports to light. All these figures are in the dollar amounts of each particular period and should be compared to today's dollar in order for the real values to be seen.

A listing of all the mines in Union County can be found at the back of the Howie story.

State reports show that up until 1935, 50,000 ounces of gold and a good quantity of silver had been secured from the mine. In 1935, when Condor Mines operated, reports showed that a minimum of 40,000 more ounces of gold was mined,

along with silver. A rough estimate, based on the above information, would then show that 90,000 ounces of gold, plus the amount lost in the tailing, had been the production in the long history of Howie Gold Mine.

With 12 ounces of gold per pound, then over 3 1/2 tons of gold would have been the total mined, plus a large amount of silver.

With the advent of World War II, an order from the War Production Board mandated a severe cutback in all gold mining projects, causing a shutdown of the Howie Mine. Had the war not intervened, it is possible that the mine would have operated on until today. Post war research has proven that gold exists there today, even to a depth of 1500 feet.

* * * * *

Just how the Howie Mine first began is uncertain and it is assumed that, due to the excitement around the area, Sam Howie followed the trend, and in panning and searching the Machine Branch of the Twelve Mile Creek, did find gold.

Sam's father, William S. Howie, deeded Sam 70 acres, in 1829, when Sam became 21 years of age and when he married Rachael Wolf. This deed carried no mention of gold, however, in 1833 William deeded another 9 acres with the clause added, "... except the gold...". In giving up all rights to the land, this leaves the obvious question - did Samuel find gold in those four years? In 1839, a further deed to Samuel for 70 acres become more specific when William adds "... that said Samuel Howie will give William Howie one-seventh part of all gold found on the southwest side of Machine Branch...". Later in the same deed, gold is mentioned again.

The lack of sufficient information about progress Howie made in the early and mid 1800's calls for assumptions, based on what is known, utilizing things around the

mine to fill in the story for these years. A recounting of what is known is that Samuel obtained three tracts, one in 1829, one in 1833 and one in 1839, totaling 149 acres on and around the mine.

Samuel was in his twenties during these years, however as he suffered a stroke in 1833, which partially paralyzed him on one side, it would seem that he would be seriously hindered from excessive digging in search of gold. In all probability, this infirmity kept him from proceeding with searches even with activity going on very close by. This nearby work, in the 1830's, was John Pennman operating in what today is called the Bonnie Belle Mine and John Lawson with his mine adjacent to the Howie's property.

Others were active in Mecklenburg County and along a line from Howie all the way back to Reed's mine.

The 1839 deed, from William to Samuel, is more serious wording in calling Samuel to give him still more part of all gold found. This would lead to the assumption that seeking and finding gold was already being done by Samuel.

All deeds and/or leases were not recorded in those years, therefore nothing is on record around activity on the land until 1845 when a lease was recorded from Samuel to William Jones with "...full power to dig and search for gold for a period of seven years -- that the said Jones will give Samuel one-seventh of all gold found before he reaches water and, afterwards, one-eighth part ..." This lease was for a lot 100' x 100'. The Jones shaft is identified today, on the site.

Further stipulations in this same lease indicate that both parties were serious about the lease and that there already was reason to believe this would be a successful venture, with the following agreement: "Jones shall have full privilege of ingress and egress together with timber sufficient for mining purposes such as building houses

and machinery and further that Jones may build a dwelling with all buildings and mill houses for the safe keeping of all machinery necessary for mining purposes". One early report states that the working yielded \$1,000 a year in gold.

The next paper showing the early development of the mine is another lease in 1849 to George Madison and James Cry for a lot 80' x 80' with the same stipulations as the Jones lease. Again, in 1849, there was a lease to John Dickinson and L.B. Fincher. This lease indicates permission to use additional land around the shaft where they were already operating. It appears that a depth has been reached where water is encountered because the lease is for the addition of a whim for drawing water out of the shaft. Also, for the first time it has been found that the mine now is known as Howie Gold Mine in the lease. One other lease is on record to Houston and Armfield. No other information is available about this lease.

In February of 1852, John Dickinson, Frances Wyatt and John Hitz leased all of the Howie Mine except three lots previously leased (the ones listed above already known as the Neddy lot, a name of two of the presently identified deep shafts on the site). This lease requires that an engine not less than fifteen horsepower be employed in the operations and that other necessary machinery for effectively operating the mine be used. This time, the percentage paid Samuel Howie was to be ten percent.

All of the above leases contained provisions for Howie to reclaim the leased areas at any time work ceased for more than three months, except for sickness or, as one lease states, "being providentially hindered". From the records, two-hundred fifty thousand dollars is shown to be the amounts taken from the diggings up until 1854.

At this time, The Union Mining Company owned several surrounding tracts, which included the Lawson and the Washington mines - the latter becoming known as Bonnie Belle.

Commodore Richard Stockton purchased the Howie Mine. The mine was upgraded by the expenditure of thirty thousand dollars on mill and equipment. Stockton built a ten stamp mill there and worked from the Neddy shaft along with the Bull Face and the one, which later was to be called the Cureton. Future owners used the mill he built until 1894. Around 75 workers were employed during the Stockton years.

Of all the gold minted in Charlotte during the Stockton years, one-third of it came from the Howie Mine. The Mint was set up in 1837 as a result of the mining around it.

In 1858, Stockton purchased three tracts, which included 872 additional acres. He also purchased several other nearby tracts in the 1850's.

At the onset of the Civil War, Stockton went back north and his property was seized by the Sheriff and sold at public auction. His property at that time, 1862, consisted of 1690 acres. The principle buyer at the sale was W.J. Cureton. Before the sale was consummated and recorded, Cureton died. However, he had already prepared his will to deal with the new purchases and this will directed that his properties be divided among his wife and children. The larger part of the mine property went to one son, Robert, so that the operation of the mine would be attempted. A report in 1867 has three hundred dollars a day in revenue from this mine.

The arrangement worked as no other records appear until 1873 when John Davis, Administrator of the will, sold the mine at public auction when a Mrs. Richardson was the high bidder.

At this point, diligent searches for any information of the activities around the mine during the 70's have come lacking. Two probabilities are possible. One, the history of most all the mines during these lifetimes showed periods of shutdown and

periods of working. Two, the post-Civil War conditions of this area were very bad as the South struggled to repair its economic status. Both of these may have played a part in no activity there.

About this time John Stockton, a wealthy investor in gold mines across the South, bought and sold several tracts of land in the area during the 1800's. Since he was from New Jersey, the home of Commodore Richard Stockton, it is quite possible that they were in the same family.

In the late 1870's, Richard reappeared on the scene, investing once again in the area. In 1883, Stockton sold the mine to J.C. Bates of New Jersey. As Bates settled in, he bought around 2,000 acres surrounding the Howie Mine, and these properties became known as the Bates' Plantation. He built his home there - a home still standing today. It is located $\frac{3}{4}$ mile northwest of Pleasant Grove Campground. He became a supporter of Pleasant Grove Methodist Church, later giving the land for the cemetery.

Several separate mines were located on Bates' property. Some of these were: Lawson, Wyatt, Washington (Bonnie Belle), Big Survey and other mine diggings along with the Howie.

Between 1880 and 1904, several deeds show that Bates sold parts of his 2,000 acres. In 1904, he sold 1706 acres to W.B. Shaffer, operating as Colossus Mine.

Two persons came on the scene around 1894 and leased parts of the mine. There were a Gaylord and Callow. They began an open cut, which struck a dike 16 feet wide and then did a cut intersecting the original one. The open cut is today known as The Glory Hole. They also built a Cyanide plant near the Old Neddy shaft, and worked the tailings at a profit.

The old mill that Stockton built was still being used until this time. One of the shafts, the Pansy, was named for the daughter of the present engineer at the mine. Names of most of the shafts at the Howie are included at the end of this history. Bates subsequently leased the mine to The Colossus Gold Mining and Milling Company of Delaware.

In 1904, the company conveyed its lease to W.B. Shaffer. He agreed to form a new corporation to be known as Colossus Gold Mining and Milling Company of North Carolina. Their principle office was established on the Bates plantation. Local stories have it that while Bates held the property the first telephone line laid in Union County connected his home and office to Monroe.

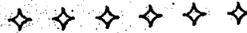


The Railroad That Never Was

In August, 1906, deeds were granted to the Carolina Mineral Railway for the purpose of constructing a rail spur track from the mine to the main line railroad, about a mile away. The grading for this track was completed ready for the rail to be laid, however, these tracks were never laid. Before this date, grading and filling the track bed to an almost level grade would have taken a long time to complete using man made power.

It is highly likely that the owners were getting into some sort of financial downturn since a short time later they had to turn the mine back over to Bates due to the lack of payment on the mortgage and the tracks were never laid. In 1909, Bates died leaving uncertain just what transpired at this time, however, work continued under some circumstances.

The right of way is very visible today. One part is just inside the entrance to the mine today, and from this point, looking across Waxhaw Indian Trail Road, one can see it as it is located where a power line runs. Crossing McNeely Road, it continues along main railway.



During this time, the ore bearing formation was said to have extended over a width of four hundred feet and fully a mile in length. Within this belt, there were perhaps as many as eight so-called veins or ore-seams, varying from eighteen inches to sixteen feet in width. It is difficult to say where vein matter was not found because the rocks of the entire region were gold bearing. The former superintendent, Mr. I. Bates, stated that "the average ore will yield, in the mill, about thirteen dollars per ton". An examination of various tailing dumps showed that a surprising of gold was lost in the mill work.

Several shafts were developed during this period. The Colossus Corporation continued to work the Bull Face and Neddy shafts, along with the "big shaft", which was eventually named the Cureton. The Bull Face, which was in the shape of a horseshoe, was found to have a rich streak in the bottom measuring six feet thick and fourteen feet long. This shaft was named after an incident in which a stray bull fell head first into the shaft. Also, "a splendid headframe" with a double drum hoist was built thirty-five feet above the big shaft to support the water tank. Evidence of the extent of work done, at this time, is found in the following quote:

"A new shaft was sunk with one eight-hour shift of six drillers and a foreman working three machines. The second shift pulled the machines, blasted the holes and muck. The third shift finished the mucking. When things

went well, the workers could make twelve feet a week, but the average was only thirty feet per month".

In 1911, the Howie Mine, or Colossus Mine, was purchased by the Howie Mining Company of Chicago, Illinois. The company purchased about two hundred and fifty acres of ground and planned to develop the mine on a large scale. The following pages of narratives and pictures were contained in the stock prospectus offered to the public by the Howie Mining Company about 1912.

THE HOWIE MINING COMPANY

— INCORPORATED —

CAPITALIZATION . . . \$2,000,000.00

MINES IN UNION COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

Executive Offices: Suite 1606 Tribune Building

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

A WORD OF PREFACE

For the information of prospective purchasers and the stockholders of the Howie Mining Company, I am writing this letter.

In the first place, I have read this prospectus over very carefully, and also the engineers' reports from which this prospectus is

drawn. I have also been on the property and have given it a thorough investigation in every respect, and I am convinced, I may say sure, that every word in this prospectus is true.

S. H. BRACEY.

NOT PROMOTERS OR SPECULATORS

Some months since, the writer of this article was requested by an old and valued friend, Mr. Smith H. Bracey, president of this company, to make an exhaustive examination of the history of, and all existent facts regarding, the Howie Mines, from a business or commercial standpoint, and to write a concise, clear and absolutely honest and true report thereon. The writer complied with this request, and, after unstinted labor, submitted the accompanying statement. In doing so, he begged the privilege of a personal prefatory word, knowing that the report would be used as a basis for offering the public a limited amount of the company's stock.

He wishes to say:

1. That he believes that every statement herein, to the smallest detail, is exactly and unqualifiedly true.
2. That he believes that in the Howie Mines there lies a long-overlooked and death-interrupted opportunity for coining millions of dollars.
3. That these mines are in no sense a mere prospect or speculation, but represent the actual investment of great sums of money in preparation for a great mining campaign, almost ready for immediate launching when stopped short by the sudden death of the former owner.
4. But, realizing that the best opportunity in the world may be wrecked or mishandled, to the loss of the small and trusting

investor, by dishonest or incompetent interests in control, he desires to say:

That no promoter or speculator has anything whatever to do with the Howie Mines or its stock.

That those in control have bought for a permanency.

Mr. Bracey, the leading stockholder, is a prominent railroad man, who has honestly earned a large estate by building over 3,000 miles of railroad, who has never wronged a man out of a penny or done one single dishonorable or discreditable act in all his life, who has taken up this enterprise as a species of special life insurance for his family.

Mr. P. P. Zimmerman, one of the largest holders of stock, is a southern gentleman of unblemished repute, intimately familiar with the history, conditions and prospects of the Howie Mines, and who has had many years of mining experience.

That the motive for offering a limited amount of stock is to secure ready money as a working capital to swiftly mill and mint the great accumulation of ore already mined, and then to open up the vast bodies of unmined, but blocked out and prospected, ore.

It matters not who the writer is, as his statements can be quickly verified by the commercial agencies or by personal correspondence by the proposed buyers, and because any group of buyers can send a representative to the mines for examination, without cost to them, before paying over a dollar of their money.

HENRY L. TURNER.

THE HOWIE MINES

The Howie Mines are in North Carolina. They have produced over \$750,000 in cash value and have hundreds of thousands on the dump and millions under the sod.

How does it happen that good gold mines lie undeveloped in North Carolina to-day?

Because the mining trend has ever been westward. Because the march of southern industry has ever been directed toward things other than mining. Because cash for development and machinery was lacking for many years after the devastation of the Civil War.

In reference to this matter, Mr. A. J. Moore, celebrated mining engineer, after an exhaustive expert examination, says of these mines:

"In conclusion, the writer considers it quite comprehensive enough for all purposes to remark that he is western born and bred and has been in this business twenty-six years, and feels it to be quite true that if this property were located one hundred miles away from railway transportation, in the fastnesses of the Rockies or Sierras, it would, with one-quarter of its present showing, be immediately financed for a fabulous amount almost without question."

The property comprises 270 acres of land, with excellent supply of timber and water. It is situated in Union County, about 10 miles from the town of Monroe and 22 miles south of Charlotte, with railway passing within short distance. Coal is easily accessible and labor plentiful and low-priced. The climate is healthy, with no extreme degree of heat or cold, admitting of uninterrupted work the year around. Two separate and distinct mines have been opened about two miles apart, each covering large terri-

"We can confidently recommend the Howie Mine as a valuable property, which, properly opened and managed, should produce good results."

From S. W. Valentine, M. E., one of the most noted engineers in the country:

"Reliable statistics taken from the books of the mill, the express companies, and the United States Mint, show that gold to the amount of over \$750,000 has been shipped from the mine. Considering the fact that nearly all the ore from which this large amount of gold was obtained came from above the water level, and that the deepest shaft is about 350 feet (at the Gold Hill Mine in Georgia good pay ore has been found at the depth of over 1,000 feet), and considering the possibility of finding rich ore deposits, such as have been found, one carrying gold to the value of \$1,000 to the ton; considering all these facts, it is impossible to estimate the immense amount of treasure that can be obtained from this remarkable mineral belt. The ore from which over \$750,000 was saved must have contained at least \$1,250,000. A large percentage of this wasted \$500,000 still remains in the immense deposits of tailings below the old mill. James Plow, miller for Com. Stockton, stated that the last 1,000 tons of ore milled by him from this mine averaged \$33 per ton."

In answer to the question, "What are the mines?" the custom the world over is to quote certain assays, and herein lies great opportunity for fraud, as a few picked assays of high value may be given as a fair sample average when it is not. Therefore, we give all the recorded assays on these two mines from December 15, 1904, to October 3, 1905, with the date and detail of each assay given, 107 assays in all, at a grand average per ton of \$73.81.

tory, and each with its own mill and mining equipment, representing a combined investment in machinery and plant of \$350,000.

Preparations were made to operate them along modern lines, with costly new machinery added, which were interrupted by the death of the owner some years since, and have been held up by entanglements in the settlement of the estate and only freed for sale or operation within the last few months.

We ask you to read what we have to say, not as the ravings of wild speculators, but as the truthful statements of honest men presenting an actual, sober, common-sense industrial investment.

WHAT THE MINES ARE

During the past twenty years the mines have been carefully examined by some of the best known mining engineers in the world and exhaustive reports made, which can be seen at our office. As they are very voluminous, we give a few pointed extracts, as follows:

From A. J. Moore, mining engineer:

"We already know that the ore is there and that it is paying ore. For instance, we know that we have a good ore, and that of itself is uncoined money, but cash nevertheless. From closer and more intimate association with mining conditions here, I am convinced that the gold-bearing area is deep and at the 500-foot level we shall find conditions that will justify further sinking. *This property is worthy of and should be carried on as a safe business proposition, and not as a stock gamble. The undeveloped gold is here.*"

From Hewick, Moneing & Alford, M. E., Suffolk House, London, Eng.:

COLOSSUS MINE—ASSAYS

Miscellaneous Assays from Bullface Ore Shoot Taken as Work Progressed

1904

Dec. 15.	First blast under W. B. Shaffer, No. 1.....	\$ 43.60
23.	No. 2.....	158.20

1905

23.	Bottom of Bullface (floor).....	33.60
	Bottom of Bullface (floor, after blast).....	99.20
Jan. 21.	Fines—Corner vein (W. B. S.).....	76.40
	Fines—Opposite corner vein.....	74.00
	Bullface vein.....	330.00
	Bullface vein.....	317.00
	Bullface vein.....	332.80
	Bullface vein.....	351.80
	Bullface vein.....	26.00
	Bullface vein.....	26.00
	Bullface vein.....	46.40
	Bullface vein.....	45.60
26.	Average of high-grade ore from Bullface (W. B. S.).....	96.00
28.	Sample taken by M. W. Shaffer.....	70.80
Feb. 1.	South side bottom of shaft.....	44.60
	East end near dyke.....	19.60
8.	Fine ore, bottom shaft, No. 1.....	40.00
	Fine ore, bottom shaft, No. 2.....	44.00
	North side, bottom shaft, No. 1.....	5.60
	North side, bottom shaft, No. 2.....	22.00

ORGANIZATION AND CAPITALIZATION

CHARTERED UNDER THE LAWS OF ARIZONA

Capital Stock	
Seven per cent preferred.....	\$ 300,000
Common	1,700,000
	\$2,000,000

VISIBLE ASSETS

Land and mines.....	\$ 400,000
Plants and machinery, including milling houses, boilers and boiler house, laboratories, shaft houses, houses for workmen. Machinery, mostly new, as per inventory cost	250,000
Ore on the dump and in tailings, as per engineer's reports	600,000
	\$1,250,000

LIABILITIES None

Invisible, but principal asset, the prospected ore in mines themselves, embraced in a vein 400 feet wide by nearly a mile in length.

OFFICERS

President, S. H. Bracey.....	Chicago, Ill.
Vice-President, William Blackburn.....	Chicago, Ill.
Treasurer, Charles Turgrimson.....	Chicago, Ill.
Secretary, William H. Gallagher.....	Chicago, Ill.

To the second question, as to the surety and steadiness of his income, we give our answer in the following carefully gathered estimates:

Capacity of mines, 300 tons of ore per day, at a grand average of assays as per reports herein, at \$73.81 per ton..	\$ 36,905.00
Cost of mining and milling 300 tons, at \$2.50 per ton..	1,250.00

Net yield per day.....	\$ 35,655.00
Net yield for one year of 300 days, at \$35,655 per day..	\$10,696,500.00

In addition, there are about \$200,000 worth of tailings ready to be run through the mill.

PROPOSITION OF SALE

To every purchaser of one share of cumulative preferred stock, price \$1, we will give two shares of common stock, par value \$1 per share. The preferred stock is redeemable at 10 per cent premium after one year, the ownership of the common stock given as bonus remaining with the holder.

SECURITY

Every purchaser of one share of preferred stock (\$1) according to the report of assets and liabilities, will have more than \$4 security for his money—in visible assets—besides his share of the

DIRECTORS

S. H. Bracey.....	Chicago, Ill.
President, Cincinnati, Bluffton & Chicago Railroad	
William Blackburn.....	Chicago, Ill.
Secretary, Penn Oil & Supply Company	
Charles Turgrimson.....	Chicago, Ill.
President, Illinois Investment Company	
William H. Gallagher.....	Chicago, Ill.

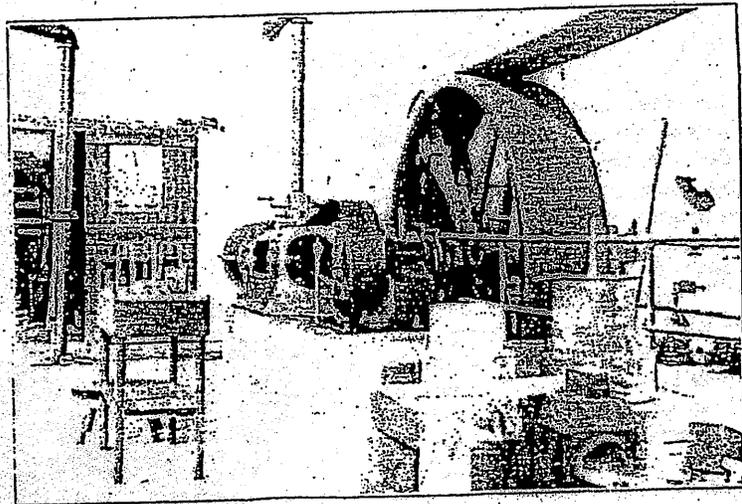
Attorney-at-Law

Fred A. Dolph.....	Chicago, Ill.
Receiver, Interstate Telephone Company	
P. P. Zimmerman.....	Chicago, Ill.
Mecklenberg Iron Works, Charlotte, N. C.	
Charles Blackburn.....	Chicago, Ill.
Treasurer, Penn Oil & Supply Company	

Every investor wishes to know two things:

1. Whether his principal is safe.
2. Whether his income will be sure and steady.

The first question we have answered in this case in our statement of assets and liabilities, where we show that without counting one cent for the real value of the property, the enormous mass of ore unmined underground, he gets more than \$4.00 in value in actual visible assets for every dollar he pays for preferred stock, for the preferred stock has the same effect as a first mortgage in that no dividends, interest or participation can be taken out of principal or income until the holders of preferred stock have been provided for.



30-Forwarder, Asbestos, Englar.

immense mass of unmined ore, which should increase the security to at least ten to one.

THE NATIONAL UPLIFT

Let us suppose you have \$300 in the savings bank, earning you 3 per cent interest each year—that is, \$9. That would go a mighty little ways in helping you support yourself, wife and two children. But suppose you draw this \$300 out of the bank and buy

with it \$300 of this company's preferred stock, and that you receive \$600 of its common stock as a bonus, and you receive each year 7 per cent dividend on your preferred stock. \$ 21.00
 And also receive 20 per cent dividend on \$600 common stock..... 120.00

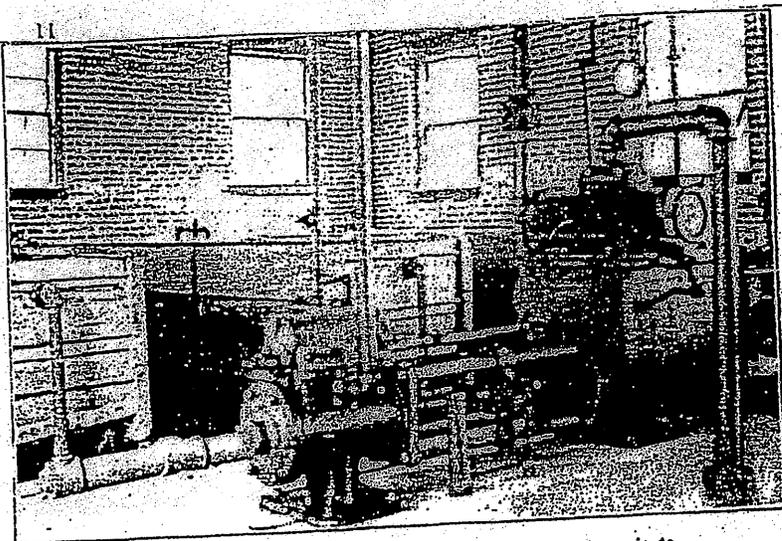
Your total income each year would be\$141.00
 instead of the \$9 you now receive from the bank. That would buy your family each year a good many items of comfort, hats, shoes, underclothing, etc., which you cannot now have for them.

Suppose at the end of five years you wished to realize on your stock.
 Your preferred stock would bring you \$330.00
 Your common stock would bring you. 600.00

Giving you back, beside your \$141 annual income.....\$930.00 principal, or \$630 clear profit.

If, instead of \$300 in the bank, you have \$600, earning you only \$18 for the year, and you bought \$600 of the company's preferred stock and received \$1,200 common stock as bonus, your annual receipt in dividends should be as follows.....\$ 282.00
 And your profit at the end of five years, besides your \$600 principal, returned to you, should be.....1,260.00

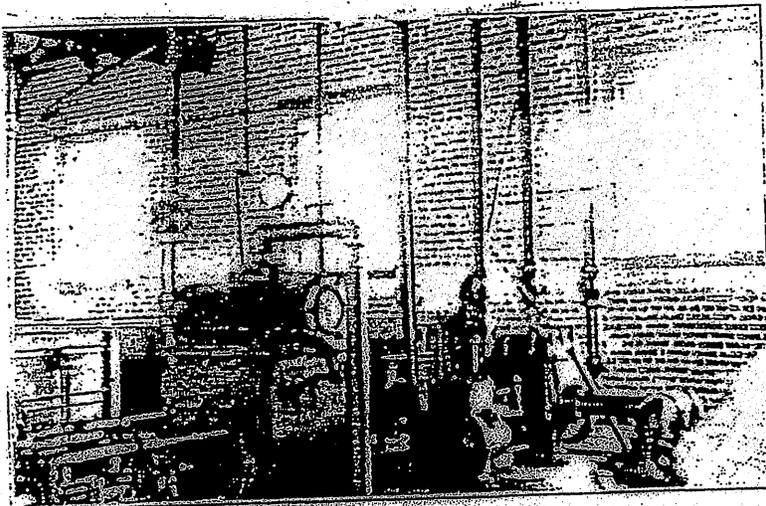
Should you invest \$1,000, your annual income should be \$470, and your profit in principal in five years, \$2,100, besides reimburs-



One of 18 Pumps with a capacity of 1,500 gallons of water per minute.

ing you your purchase money, \$1,000. Is not this promising enough to warrant investigation?

Should the company do this by 500 or more families, they would certainly have done their part towards the accomplishment of the national purpose—"the betterment of the people"—in a most practical and common-sense way. It is precisely because they are convinced that they can not only do this, but far better than this, by all alike, that they have taken up this enterprise and do not hesitate to recommend it.



One of 18 Pumps with a capacity of 1,500 gallons of water per minute.

WHY GOLD MINING IS A WORLD-BEATER

If you have trained yourself to be an expert bricklayer or carpenter, you have gained an asset of untold value to you. But you are met at the outset, and always, with the question: "Is there a demand for my ability? Can I depend on steady employment?"

If you have the talent and have educated yourself to paint beautiful pictures, to sing or to play any instrument superbly, you have gained a money-earning power of great value, but you are met at the beginning, and ever, with the question: "Will there

be a demand for my pictures, my singing, or playing?"

If you are the owner of 160 acres of fertile farming or cotton land, and have, through a hot season of arduous labor or superintendence, brought your crop to perfection, you have gained an asset of great potential money-producing power; but again rises up the same old perplexing question: "Shall I find a remunerative demand for my crops?"

So, through every avenue of the world's activities, be it in the manufacture or sale of dry goods, clothing, hats, boots and shoes, steel or rubber products, automobiles or trucks, your work is but half done when you have your finished product in hand. Always and everywhere you are confronted with the larger half of your undertaking, viz., the disposal of your gathered assets; always and unceasingly, the old question comes up to worry

you, viz., "Where can I find a market, a demand, for my goods?"

But it is not so with gold mining. When you have dug your ore up out of the earth, have milled or smelted it, you can laugh at that old question, which has worried the world since Adam found none but home customers for his apple crop. "Where shall I find buyers for my product?" You have but to send it to Uncle Sam's mint and you receive back dollars—beautiful, shining gold dollars, grand commanders of all life's necessities and happiness. They will not grow dim or rust upon your shelves, or mildew in

your cellars, for lack of buyers. They are bought before you get them.

Thus it is gold mining beats the world and leads all of life's activities—a winner down the home stretch.

LEGITIMATE GOLD MINING

The Safest, Most Honorable and Most Profitable Business in the World

The Mining Journal, a leading financial paper, says: "Gold mining is the backbone of the business structure. It is the only business not affected by trusts, competition, rivalry."

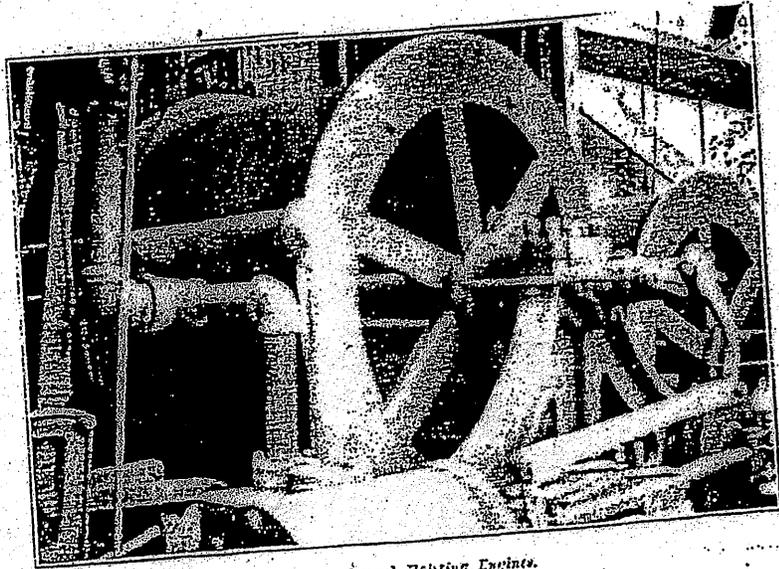
The National Banker says: "The dividends paid by gold and silver mines are greater than the dividends paid by all the banks in this country."

One of the *New York dailies* has just stated (June, 1912) that the dividends for the past year from gold mining exceed two billion dollars (\$2,000,000,000), greater than the combined dividends of all the national banks in the country.

Bradstreet's and Dun's say that only 35 per cent of all legitimate mining investments fail, while 95 per cent of all mercantile investments fail.

The *Utah mines* in 45 years have produced \$325,000,000, or an average of about \$8,000,000 per year.

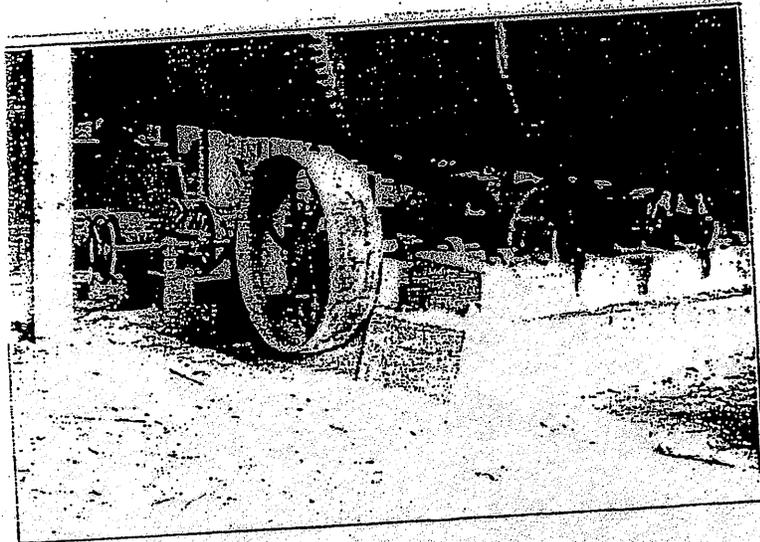
South Dakota gold mines have produced \$225,000,000 in the last 38 years.



One of several Hoisting Engines.

Mr. Cecil Rhodes, one of the greatest gold mining millionaires of the age, says: "Less money is lost proportionately in mining than in any other business in the world and larger fortunes are made in mining and in the investment in mining stocks than in any other business or investment on earth. A good mining stock will pay the investor more easily 20, 30, 40 and 100 per cent annually than municipal bonds, railroad bonds and stock or government bonds can possibly pay 3 per cent."

A gold mine fortune or income is a clean and wholesome one.



Portion of Drive.

No man's cost of living is increased a dollar by it. You get it because you find and dig it out where God has hidden it. Unlike stock and grain speculation, no man loses, but all the world gains by what you make.

It is as unjust to charge upon legitimate mining the frauds of ten thousand fakers in alleged mining investments as it would be to charge upon a brave and patriotic army the robbery of the dead upon a battlefield by the ragged hangers-on and ghouls upon its trail.

God hides His treasures dark and deep
Down in the bosom of the earth,
But means that man, with brain and brawn,
Through toiling hours from early dawn,
Shall all his millions find and keep,
And measure out, in happiness, their worth.

SALIENT POINTS REGARDING THE HOWIE MINES

1. They are a tangible, visible actuality, not a mere speculator's dream.
2. They are a producing proposition, not a mere promoter's guess.
3. The United States Mine and the express companies are the responsible vouchers, not some salesman, that there has been already taken from the mines \$750,000 in gold.
4. Upon the testimony of some of the ablest mining engineers, superintendents and workers, you are assured that all mining

so far done was in an unscientific, costly, old-fashioned way, leaving for remilling, at large profit, a great mass of ore with the gold but partially extracted, making large and prompt dividends highly probable.

5. But to-day the mines are equipped with practically new, modern machinery, so that with the addition of a small amount immediate mining can be begun on up-to-date, money-saving methods.

6. As far as can be ascertained from careful study of the

exhaustive reports of the various engineers on the existing conditions, it would appear that the \$750,000 in gold removed has barely touched upon the real resources of the mine.

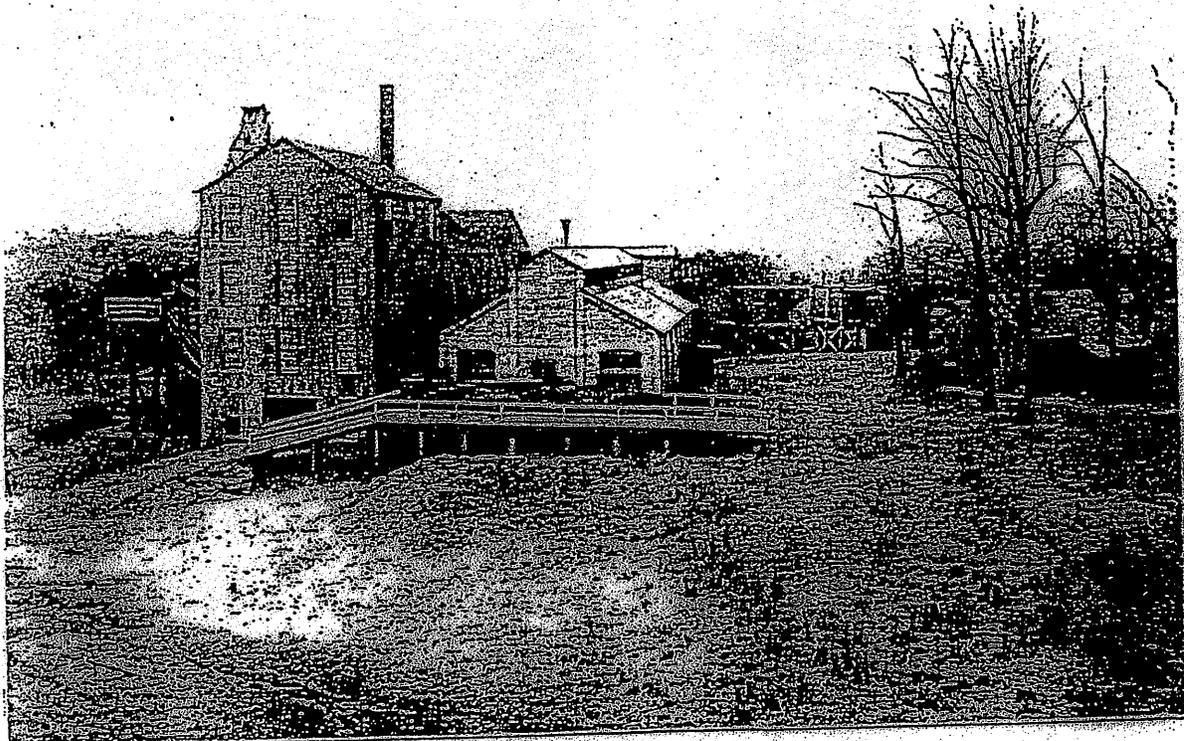
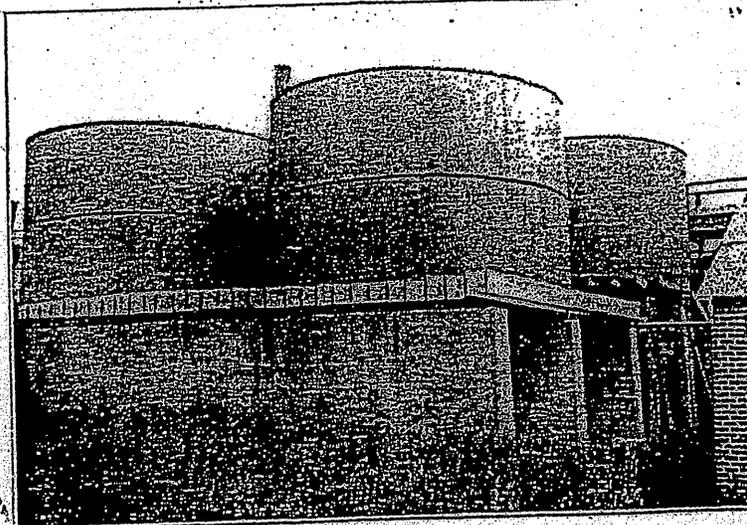
7. There is here no costly, heavy transportation of machinery in and bulky product out. It is an express, not a freight, proposition.

8. The product being gold itself, the measure of all values, competition or combination cannot threaten it.

9. If the company's well-grounded expectations are but moderately realized, the holders of preferred stock should receive annually not only their 7 per cent dividend thereon, but also a 20 per cent dividend on two times as much bonus common stock.

Respectfully submitted,

THE HOWIE MINING COMPANY
Main Office, Suite 1606, Tribune Bldg.,
Chicago, Ill.



Showing the Mill House, four stories high. Next to the Mill House is the Brick Boiler Room and the rear part of the Boiler House used for Engine and Compressor. This cut also shows Cyanide Tanks and small cabin in the background.



Showing a view of the Buildings and Grounds. Reading from left to right, is Boarding House, Dwellings, Laboratory, Office and Store House in front of the Office and Stables in the extreme rear.



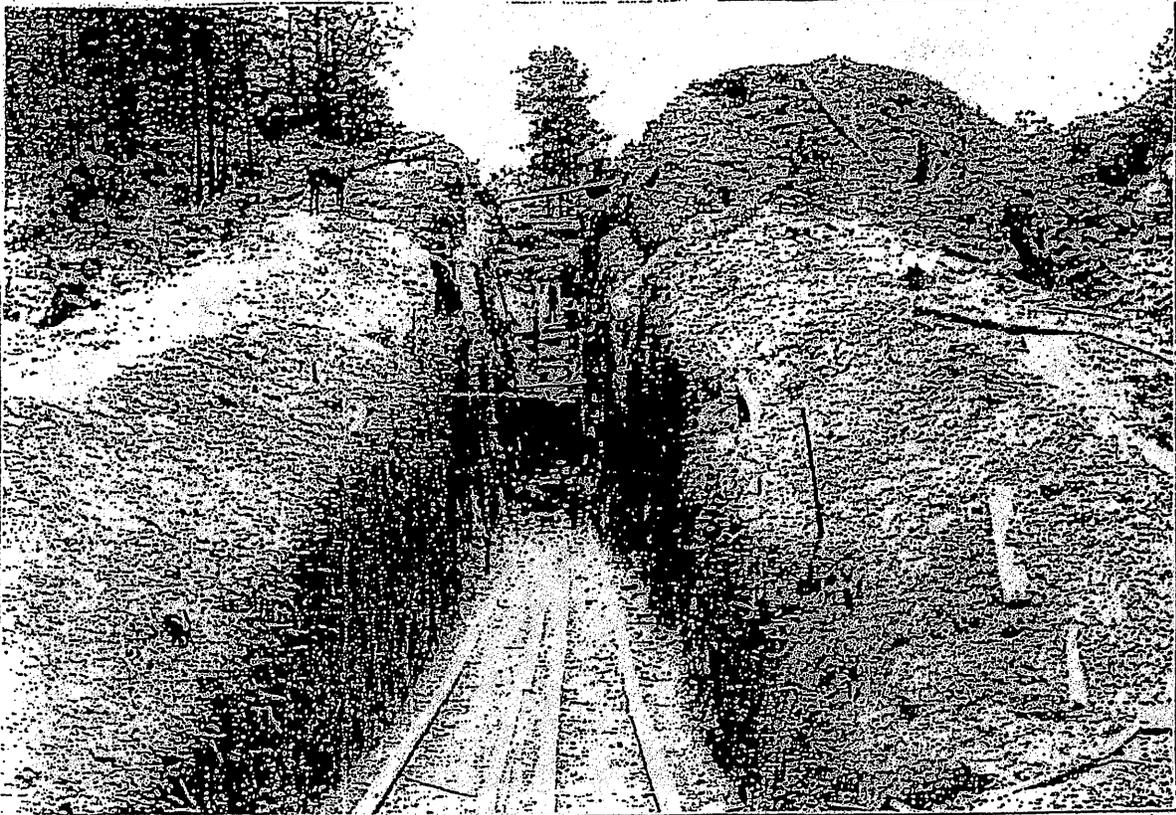
ENGINE HOUSE



BRICK BOILER ROOM



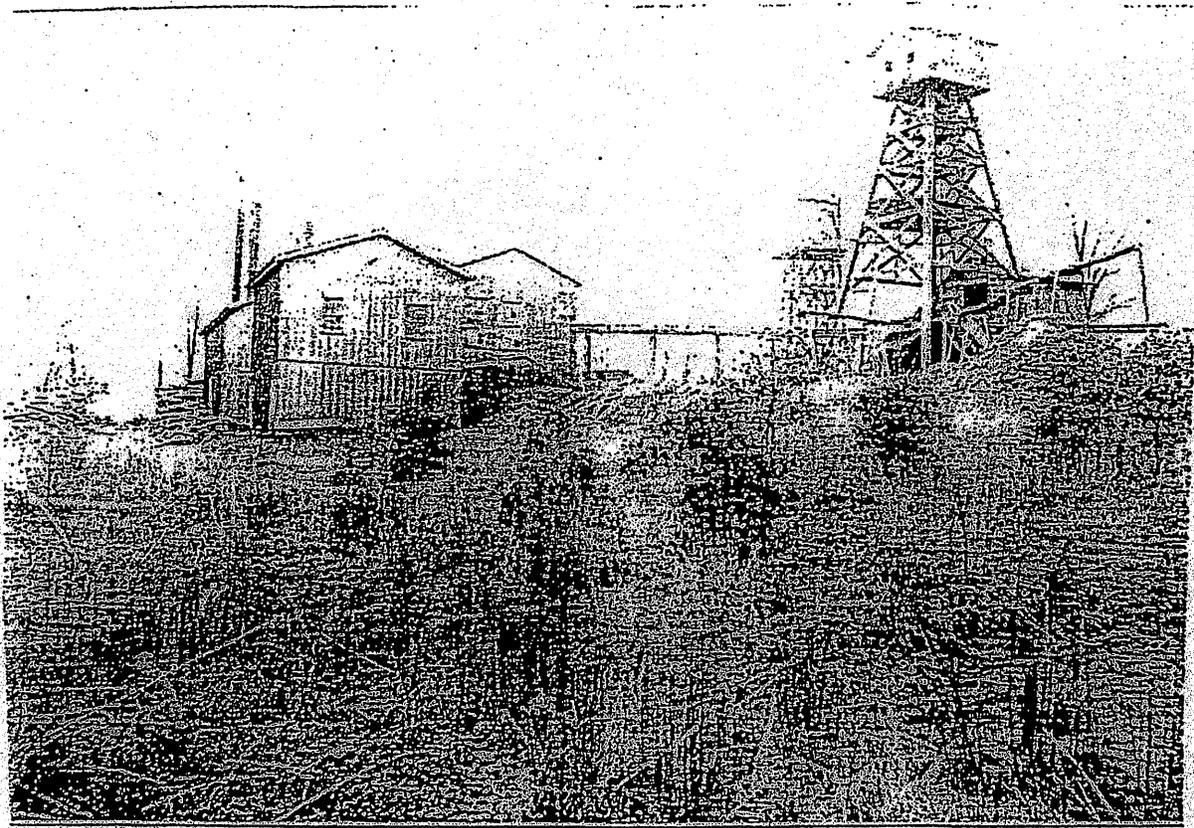
VIEW OF GROUNDS



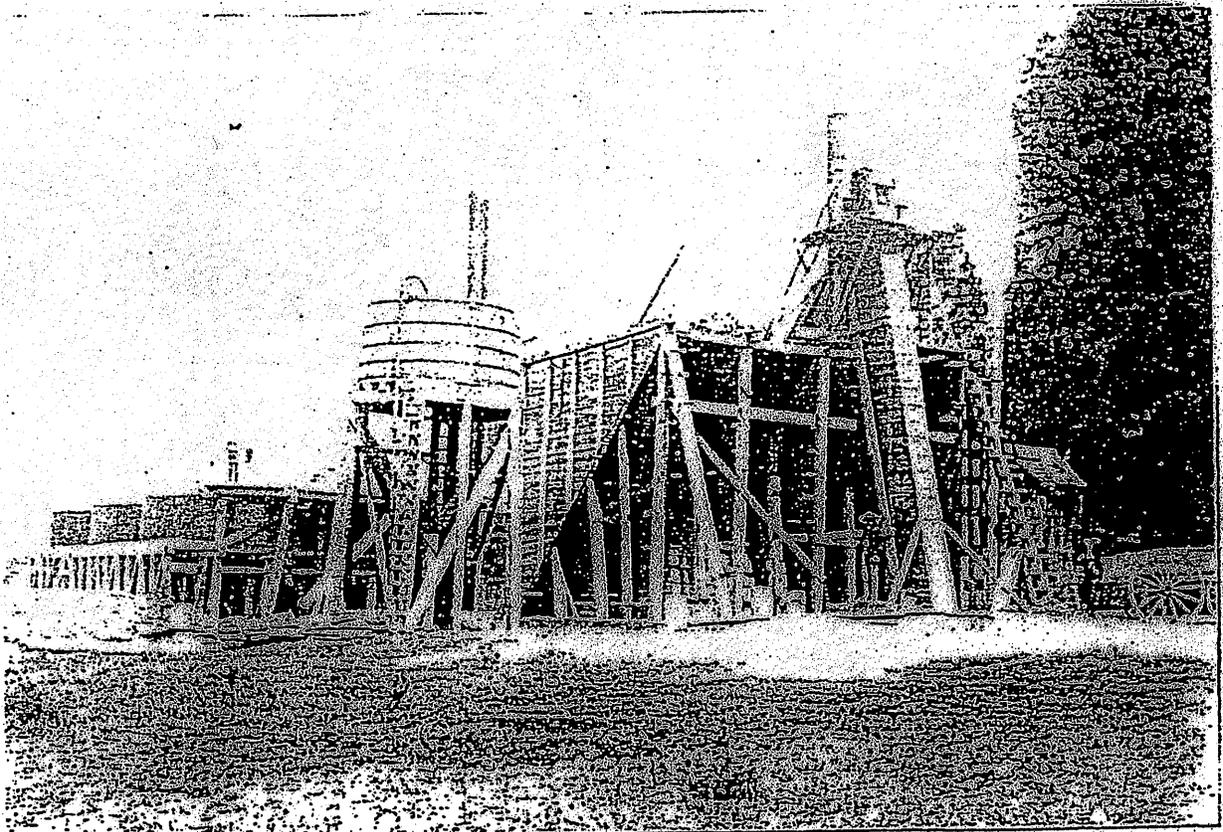
Showing cut through vein to a depth of 20 feet, which will be continued until the whole distance across the vein of about 160 feet has been cut. The whole ledge will then be quartered on each side of the cut to the level shown in the foreground to the full length of the ore deposit, over 1,500 feet.



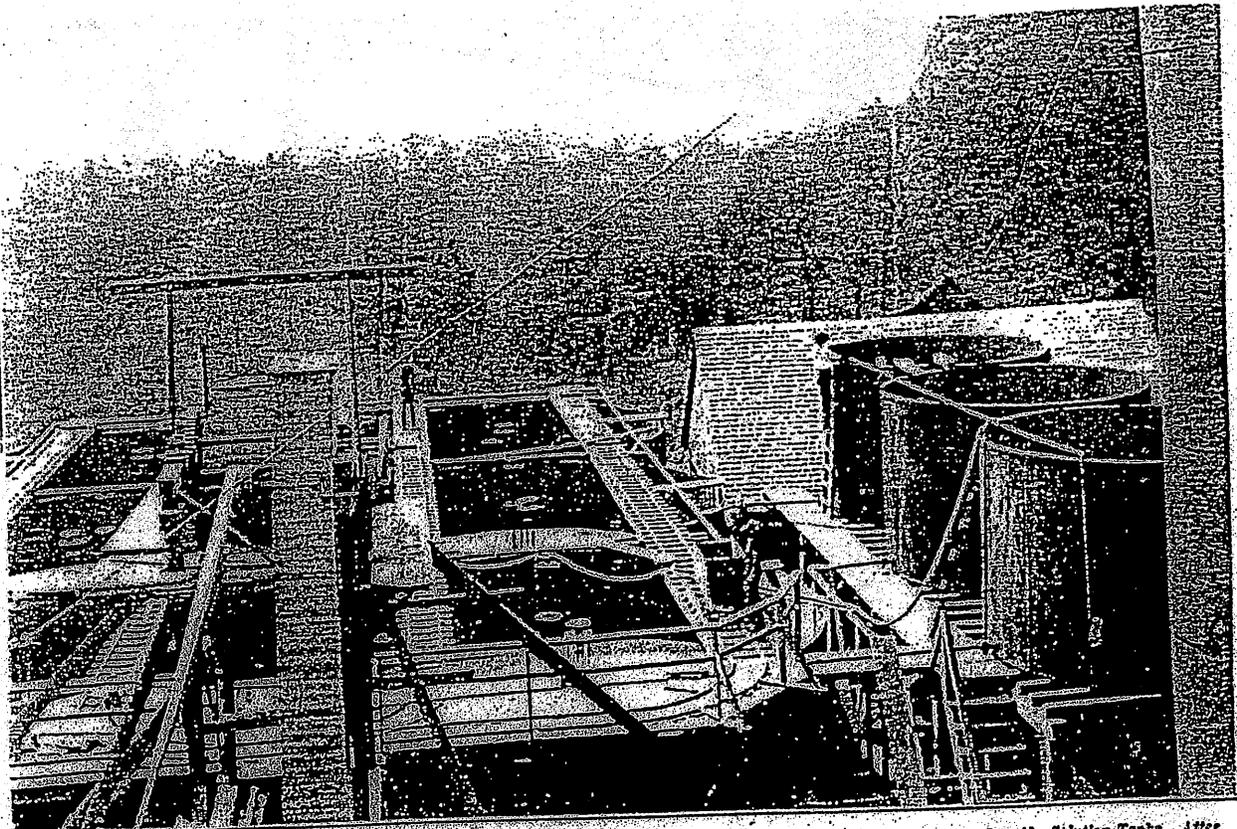
Portion of dump, showing Tailings which still carry from 4% to 11% per ton in gold.



Showing the Towers at New Shaft, Tank, Hoister and Ore Dump.



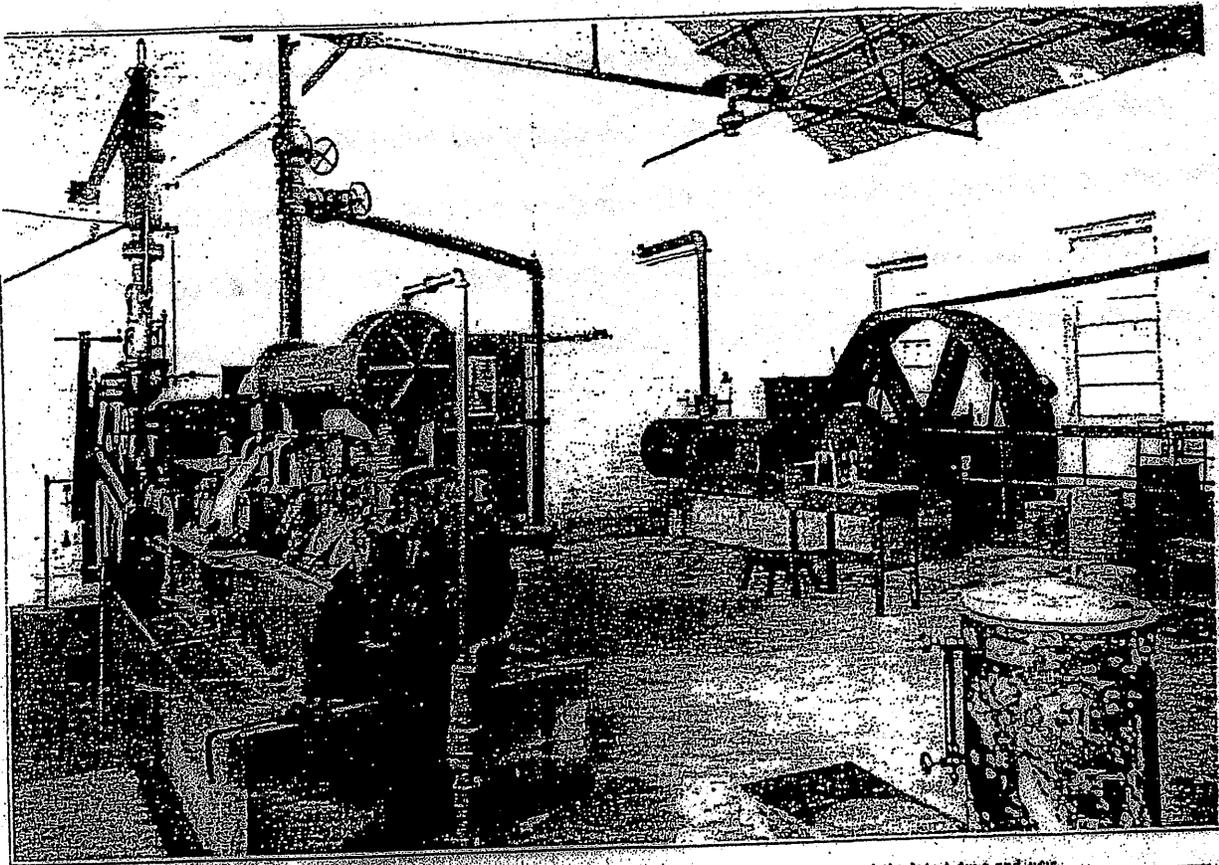
This view shows where tailings are dumped and elevated to Bin, from which they are passed through Dryer, and from thence by cars to Leaching Tanks shown in left of cut.



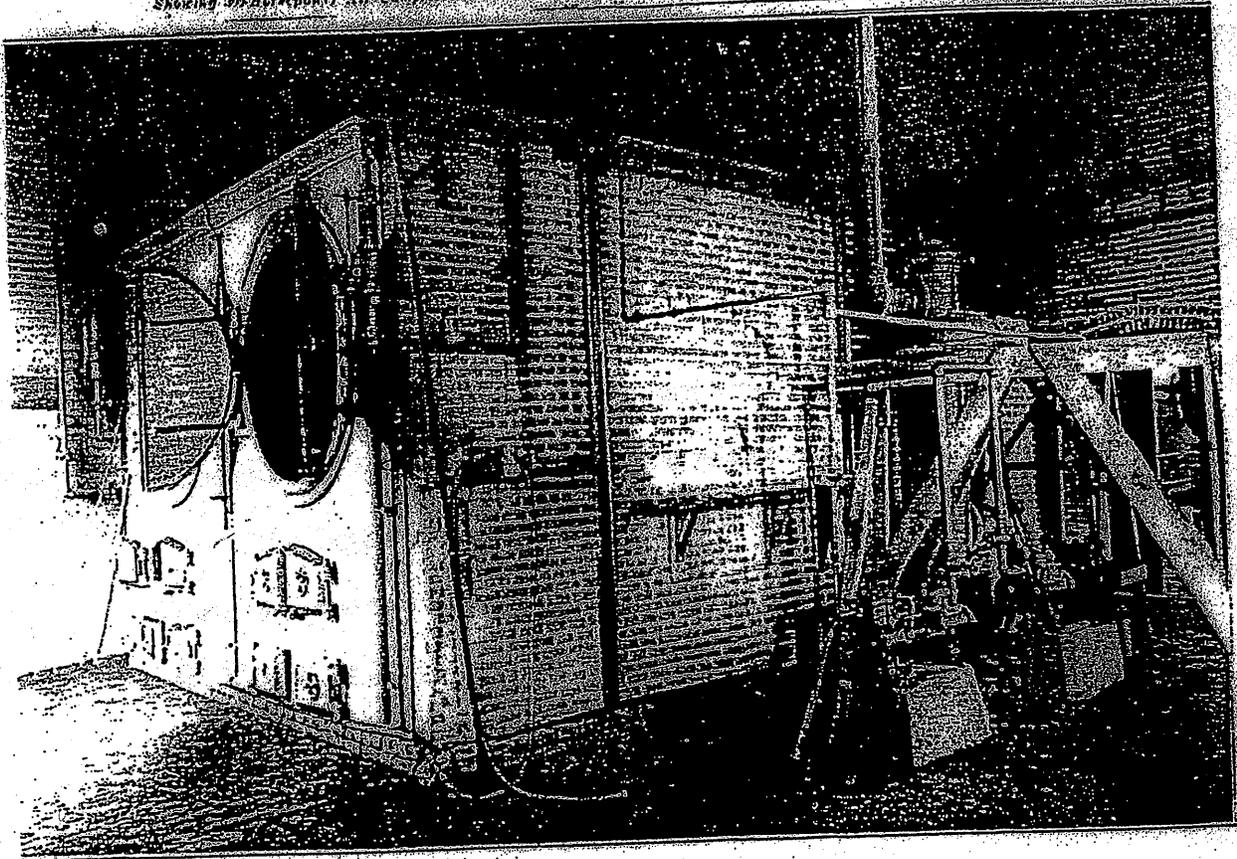
In this cut is shown the six 10-ton Leaching Tanks and the method of filling same; also to the right are the three Cyanide Solution Tanks. After the large tanks are filled with ore the cyanide solution from these tanks is conveyed to the Ore Tanks until ore is entirely submerged. After the gold is all extracted from the ore and held in the cyanide solution, the latter is drawn off and passed through Zinc Boxes shown on page 25.



Showing the Precipitating Room, where the liquid from the Leaching Tanks, carrying the gold in solution, passes through boxes in which are very fine zinc shavings which gather and retain the gold. The solution is then discharged to a tank under floor shown on the left of cut, and is then pumped to the Solution Tank shown on page 25, where it is strengthened by additional cyanide and the solution again used, and so on indefinitely. After all values have been extracted from the fine ore in tanks, valves at the bottom are opened and a stream of water introduced, and the now valueless ore is discharged in chutes that conduct it from the Reduction Works.



Showing 30-Horsepower Air Compressor and 30-Horsepower Automatic Engine. These are of the latest type and make.



Showing two 125-Horsepower Boilers.

About this time, 1912, the following report was filed by the superintendent:

"Two levels have been opened, one at 150 feet and one at 265 feet. At the 150-foot level, drifts have been run southwest and northeast on the vein without any pay ore having been exposed. Cross-cuts extend southeast and northeast from the shaft, also in waste. The total amount of drifting and cross-cutting is about 200 feet".

"At the second level, drifts have also been run southwest and northeast, and cross-cuts same as on the first level. In the southwest drift, an ore body was encountered about 100 feet from the shaft and a stope has been started on the ore. This is known as the Clark Stope. Ore is being broken here from six to eight feet wide, averaging, by grab samples, from ten dollars to three hundred dollars per ton. The higher values have been recently found in the southeast wall of the stope, the rich portion vein being one foot to eighteen inches wide, averaging from seventy dollars to four hundred dollars, per ton, in gold. Very little silver is found. The rich ore is, at present, being stacked for shipment, the balance going to the mill".

"The mill ore will average from ten dollars to three hundred dollars per ton. The bulk of the gold occurs on the cleavage planes in a very fine state of division, the remainder being disseminated through the quartz and coarser particles. Gold is readily seen with the naked eye in the rich ore".

"The bottom of the shaft, 90 feet below the second level, shows assay values of two dollars and forty cents per ton, and the intention is to sink further with a view of cutting the same ore chute now being worked on the second level. This ore chute is south and east of the old workings in the Bull Face shaft,

operated some years ago by the Colossus Mining Company, as sunk on an incline to a point 90 feet below our second level”.

“There is a breakthrough from the southwest end of our drift on the second level into these old workings, but up to the present time water has prevented any examination of the old work, and their extent has not been ascertained by the present company”.

(NOTE: A stope is a place where the vein is struck and it is followed wherever it leads, maybe up, maybe down or crossways.)(The Clark stope is said to have been enlarged to the size where several homes could be housed inside it.)

“According to reports, a considerable amount of ore has been mined from these workings. The Bull Face shaft is vertical for 150 feet from the surface, the remainder of the distance being on an incline following the dip of the ore chute. There is said to be good ore left in the bottom”.

“Northwest from the Bull Face are two shafts, the old and new Neddy shafts. These are in bad condition and are not being used. The new Neddy produced a considerable amount of good ore from the Neddy vein to a depth of 300 feet. There is a cross-cut connected the Bull Face and the new Neddy shafts at 150 feet. At a point 1500 feet northeast from the main shaft, the company is developing a vein exposed in some old workings. This shaft is 60 feet deep and has been equipped with a small headframe and hoist. A 1-1/2 inch airline from the main shaft supplies compressed air to operate the hoist and machine drills. Sufficient development work has not yet been done in this shaft to determine the extent of the ore chute, but good ore is being broken in an underhand stope from two to three feet wide”.

"Ore is trammed from the main shaft to storage bins, from which it is taken to the mill by an inclined tramway. This incline is to be extended on a 45 degree dip to cross-cut the vein systems in this, the western end of the property".

- An interesting sidelight to the development of the mine occurred when a huge air compressor arrived by rail at Mineral Springs. Due to the weight of this machine, at first a six-horse team was employed to bring it as far as Pleasant Grove Campground. Apparently the condition of the road changed considerably at this point because from here on to the mine, it took a team of twelve horses and, when it arrived at the creekbed, there had to be laid a track of heavy timbers before it could cross the creek. It must be remembered that at this point in time the roads were for wagons and buggies and were maintained by the community.

Most of the mining done by the Howie Company was centered around the "main shaft", or the Cureton, which was developed to 350 feet and later to 596 feet. The Bull Face shaft continued to be developed and was said to contain good ore in the bottom. However, the Neddy shafts were said to be in poor condition and were not used.

Also, between the years of 1911 and 1912, the mill was remodeled from a very dry crushing plant to a cyanide agitation plant. It consisted of "great crushers, roughing rolls, tube mills, classifiers, necessary elevators, tanks and etc."

In 1913, the mine was actively developed for only five months. The greater portion of gold in Union County came from the Howie Mine in 1914. In 1915, the Howie was also the largest producer in Union County. In November, a 300 ton cyanide plant was built at this site. In 1916, the shaft house at the Howie Mine was destroyed by fire. It was not repaired until December of 1916. The loss of the shaft house caused

the unwatering of the mine, the building of concrete retaining walls and piers to support the headframe. On March 12, 1917, the secretary of the mine stated: "Our mill will start within the next six weeks on a 50-ton daily basis, and we will resume mining operations this week, using a temporary frame".

On February 21, 1921, the commissioner of the court, in the case entitled Jane S. Bates versus Howie Mining Company, auctioned the gold mine property to the highest bidder, Roland H. Brady of Baltimore, Maryland for the sum of fifty thousand dollars. Thus, the control of the mine by the Howie Mining Company ended.

Between the years of 1921 and 1929, the Howie Mine changed owners several times. During this period, little significant operation or operation took place.

On March 1, 1921, Roland H. Brady sold the gold mine property to the Waxhaw Mining Company for the sum of five dollars and other "good and valuable considerations". On May 7, 1924, the superior Court of Union County "In the certain action et als," authorized a public auction of the property of the Waxhaw Mining Company (including mine machinery, engines, boiler, hoisters and tools). A deed was issued by the commissioner to the highest bidder, Charles B. Blackburn, for the sum of ten thousand dollars. On October 13, 1924, Charles B. Blackburn conveyed the gold mine to the Jackson Milling Company. On November 25, 1927, the Jackson Milling Company, a corporation of the State of Delaware, sold the gold mine to the Jackson Gold Mining Company for the sum of one dollar and "other good and valuable considerations". On August 14, 1929, the Jackson Gold Mining Company sold the mine property to Condor Consolidated Mines, Ltd., a corporation created by and existing under the laws of Ontario for the sum of one dollar and "other valuable and good considerations".

The Depression kindled a brief flurry of activity in the gold region as is shown in the following reports.

Between the years of 1929 and 1936, the Howie Mine, under the control of Condor Consolidated Mines, Ltd., underwent many developments. "The mine was unwatered, core-drilled and sampled carefully." A large amount of gold ore was carved out but because of a disagreement among the owners, a mill was not built. The company made plans to erect a 100-ton cyanide mill. In 1935, the primary shaft that was worked was the Cureton, which was 365 feet deep, later at 596 feet. Other shafts that were developed the Bull Face, the Bracey and the Pansy. The production figures for 1934 credited the mine with having produced 41,300 ounces of gold. During this period, the mine came to be looked upon with considerable merit and it was predicted that it would become a good gold producer.

Between 1937 and 1943, the predictions that the Howie Mine would become a good gold producer came true. On January 12, 1937, Condor Consolidated Mines, Ltd., a company incorporated by Letters Patent under the laws of the Province of Ontario, Dominion of Canada, sold the gold mine property to Condor Gold Mines, Ltd., a company incorporated under the laws of the Province of Ontario, Dominion of Canada for the sum of one dollar and "other good and valuable considerations."

In order to operate the mine efficiently, Condor Gold Mines, Ltd. (1936) sought out people in Union County who would invest their time, labor and money into making the mine a success. In November of 1939, Hugh Jardine, of Union County, North Carolina, signed an agreement with the corporation. Jardine, wishing to participate in the development and operation of the Condor Gold Mine, agreed to invest a total

amount of thirty thousand dollars to furnish and supply all mining plant equipment, which would be required for the prosecution of the mining program and agree to pay all the costs entailed in the performance of the mining operations. The agreement also stated that after Jardine had spent seventy five thousand dollars on the mine, he would be entitled to fifty percent of the net profits. In 1941, Condor Gold Mines, Ltd. (1936) leased the mineral rights and property to Robert Y. Moffat. Then, in 1942, Jardine released and conveyed his claim on the property to Robert Y. Moffat. Thus, the responsibility for the mine during this period rested with Hugh Jardine and Robert Y. Moffat.

The mine, at its peak, employed about 100 men. Some of the workers included Fred Kilpatrick, Buck Patterson, Walter Ghant, Jerry Hilder, Iz Wallace, Richard Hood, Jimmy McClain, Thomas Daugherty, Baxter Blythe, R.J. Blythe, James Plattenberger, John Ghant, Andy Broome, Hugh Jardine, ? Brown, and Charlie Patrick.

The workers' wages were fixed according to the work that they did. The main labor was paid fifty cents an hour, while the unskilled was paid between thirty cents and forty cents an hour.

"In 1940, 1941 and 1942, the mine was the leading gold producer in the state." In 1940, the mine brought in ten thousand dollars to twenty thousand dollars every fourteen days. In 1941, it was reported that the mine turned out about two gold bricks per month, each weighing about thirty pounds and bringing nine thousand dollars.

There were many accidents among the miners. The majority of the fatal accidents resulted from falls into the shafts. Those who died in mine accidents included William Helms, Fred Bowden, Will Crow, Robert Tysinger, Alonzo Stephenson, Cull Helms and Hamp Helms.

In 1942, the mine closed as the result of World War II following a presidential order to close all gold mines along with many other actions which took place in America in the dark days at the beginning of the war. The mine has been inactive since 1942. However, in 1955, the mill was used for a while, then again in the early 1960's the mill site was used for processing gold ore from the Star Mine in Montgomery County. The ore was hauled by a fleet of large dump trucks and the gold brick was poured here at the mill. This was leased by H.A. Knight, Sr. of High Point. One hundred and fifty thousand dollars worth of gold was produced there before the mill was shut down.

In 1967, the gold mine property was seized from Condor Gold Mines, Ltd. (1936) by the courts because of unpaid debts. On April 25, 1967, the land was sold at public auction to the highest bidder, Robert Y. Moffat, for the price of one thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight dollars.

Between 1968 and 1973, the mine property changed owners several times. On February 9, 1968, Robert Y. Moffat sold the property to Moffmines, Inc., a Pennsylvania corporation, for ten dollars and "other good and valuable considerations". On November 16, 1971, the gold mine property was sold by Moffmines, Inc., of Scranton, Pennsylvania, to Talley-Brook, Inc., a North Carolina corporation for the sum of ten dollars and "other good and valuable considerations". On June 9, 1972, the gold mine property was sold by Talley-Brook, Inc. to J.E. Josephs and wife and Alex R. Josephs and wife for the sum of ten dollars and "other good and valuable considerations". Finally, on April 23, 1973, the gold mine property was sold by J.E. Josephs and wife and Alex R. Josephs and wife to Frank Watson and wife and W.S. McMillan and wife for the sum of one hundred dollars and "other good and valuable considerations". During these years, no significant developments took place at the Howie Mine.

In 1973, the equipment at the Howie Gold Mine was sold to a Georgia firm. Dismantling it called for tearing down much of the main building. Frank Watson did not know it was for sale until the machinery was sold. He then purchased the land and the buildings that stand on it.

The following report was written in the late 1970's and reported on the condition of the mine at that time:

At present, the mine is in poor condition. The buildings are almost all gone and kudzu vines are taking over every available empty space. Many of the old shafts are covered by the vines and present a risk to any who enter the premises. The remains include the old superintendent's home, two tenant houses and various eroded shafts.

The future of the mine is uncertain. In 1976, Dana Norman, geologist of Tuscon, Arizona, directed an exploration done by the Oglebay Norton Company of Cleveland, Ohio. The drilling rig core-drilled four small holes to determine the extent of gold left in the mine. This simple exploration, which cost thousands of dollars, found plenty of gold. However, the problem is that it will cost millions of dollars to try to remove the gold. A factor contributing to this problem is the abundant water supply in the mine. Frank Watson said that there was enough water in the mine to supply the town of Waxhaw. The shafts are filled with the water and estimates state that 500 gallons a minute can be pumped out. In 1983, Charles Jacoby directed further exploration of the mine. This exploration reached a depth of 590 feet, where work stopped when the presidential order had closed the mine in 1943. Besides re-examining the existing 15,000 feet of tunnels, this work went further by boring another 400

feet. Results of these tests show that there is indeed gold remaining in the mine and the surrounding area.

Later drilling was done in the 1990's with no further developing being done from this action.

The Howie Mine's future as an historical site looks dim. Watson offered the property to the state of North Carolina as an historical site. The response was that they "were not interested". Thus, an illustrious and fascinating era passes out of the picture leaving in its wake physical evidence of its passage and mental images of a bygone day.



Rev. George Lee Broome grew up in the gold mine area and observed life as it was lived around the mine during the late 1920's until the mine's closing in 1942. While living there, he had occasional employment at the mine and has been down in it several times. He has identified all the buildings, roads and a majority of the shafts on the property and these are included on the accompanying drawing.

Recalling some of the sights and sounds of mining, he remembers the sound of the steam whistle blowing at noon, and other times of the stamp mill pounding the ore into dust, the sound of the hoister as it operated the elevator, taking the miners down into the mine and bringing the ore up in carts, seeing these carts going down the elevated tramway on their way to the mill house, the sounds of the jack hammer waterlines and stopers as they were used down in the mine.

During his residence there, Rev. Broome saw the transformation from steam power to electricity. Where once the miners first used candles and carbide headlamps,

now the tunnels were illuminated by electric lights. When once the large steam boilers were fired up to run heavy mill machinery, now electrical power did the job.

The majority of the mining being done during the later years, the years Rev. Broome observed, was in the main shaft, the Cureton and the Bull Face. Conditions down in the shafts and through several levels and several horizontal tunnels were both hard and dangerous. Several miners were killed while underground. Constant drippage of water required that hard hats, rain suits and boots to be worn at all times.

Even though the temperature underground is supposed to remain in a constant moderate range, in the winter time, in some tunnels that crossed over and interconnected with the others, there would be a forceful wind, caused by the chimney effect, requiring that doors be built to keep out the bitter temperatures above ground.

Since, when the ore was struck the workings would follow the best vein, some excavations would be huge. Rev. Broome remembers the Clark stope being large enough for several homes.

Tools used down in the mine were jackhammers for drilling downward, water liners for horizontal digging and stopers for overhead excavating. Air was supplied by the compressors above ground and delivered to the tunnels by pipelines.

Rev. Broome states that he remembers seeing the last building, another mill house, being constructed and that the employment, at that time, was over 100 men. Also remembered was the payscale for the miners being from two to four dollars per day.

* * * * *

The closing of the Howie Gold Mine signaled an end to a significant era in the history of Union County, an era that saw thirty different mining locations being worked

and mining employing the second highest number of men in the county in the years 1840 through 1860, and producing the largest amount of gold in the state in the 1940's.

* * * * *

A New Vision

The era of actual mining of gold may indeed be over, however, the heritage will live on due to the interest and enthusiasm of one individual, John Rissenen. Through the purchase of 62 acres, he has acquired the mine lands with a very small exception. This acreage is divided into three parts. One part contains the area that was worked as a mine. One part will be an equestrian center. The final part will be the Rissenen home. The vision and objective of Rissenen projects is as follows: "To attain, restore, maintain and preserve the Howie Mine for the continuation and perpetuation of the tradition of the gold mining days.

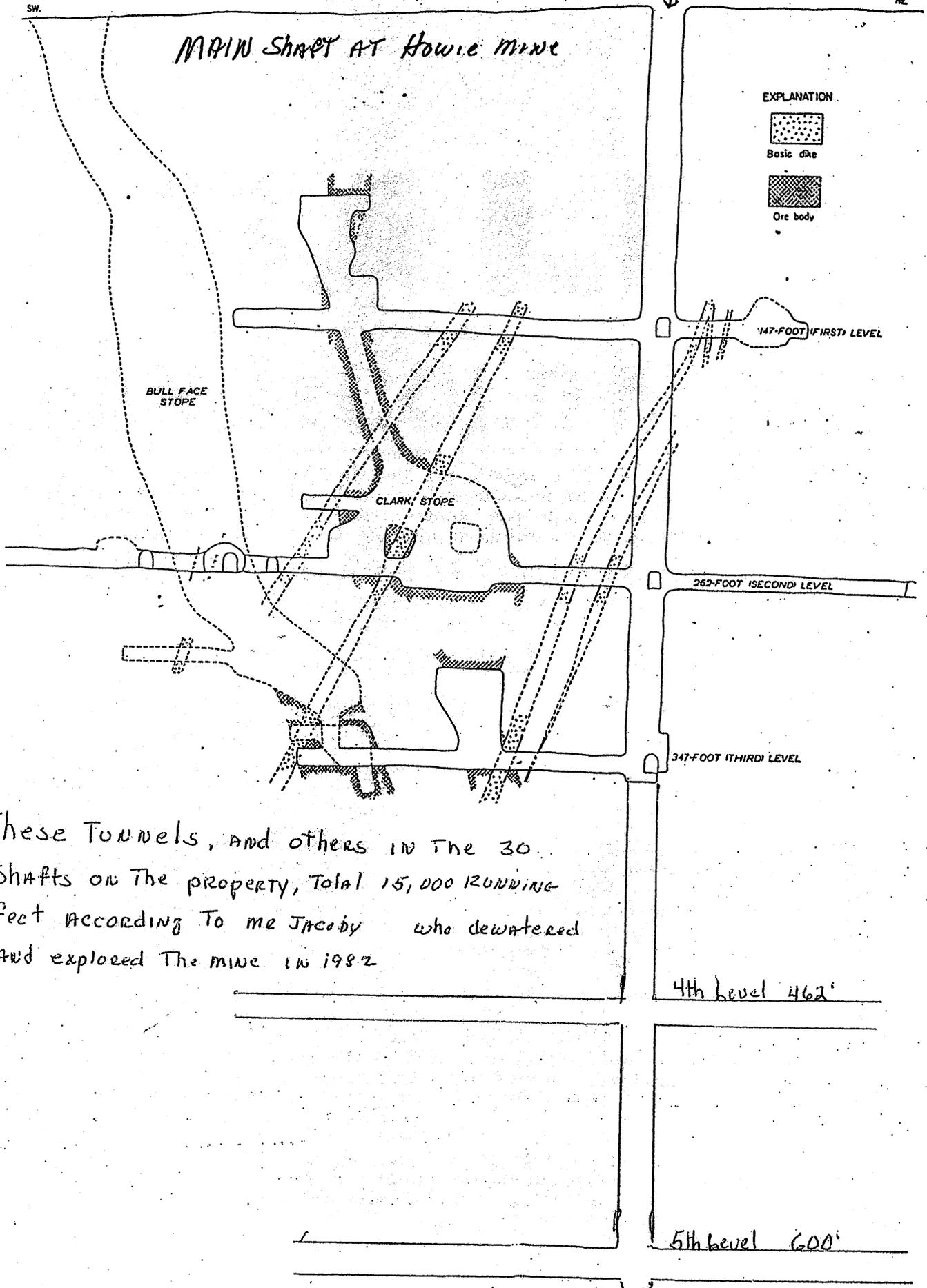
A tremendous of work already has been done, including the clearing necessary to begin restoration and much improvements to the landscape. A number of the shafts have been temporarily covered for safety while others are being opened, explored and improved on so as to be available for public visitation.

Rissenen's long range view is to have the mine portion of the land to be open to the public for a park-like atmosphere. The grand opening is set for the fall of 2002.

So, just as the historical Phoenix rose out of the ashes to become something new, now where once thought lost and buried to the past, the Howie Gold Mine will arise again and not be forgotten.

Thanks to John Rissenen!

Cureton Shaft



⊗ These Tunnels, and others in the 30 shafts on the property, total 15,000 running feet according to me Jacoby who dewatered and explored the mine in 1982

SALE OF LAND AND GOLD MINE.

Having due authority by order of the Judge of the Superior Court of Union County, I will sell, as Administrator de bonis non with the will annexed of Wm. Cureton, deceased, and as Commissioner appointed to make said sales, all the Real Estate of the said Wm. J. Cureton in Union county, in this State, containing

Several Thousand Acres of Valuable Farming Lands,

and different Tracts, on Waxhaw and Twelve Mile Creeks, and the valuable GOLD MINE, known as the

STOCKTON OR HOWIE GOLD MINE.

sale to be on the 7th day of January next, 1873, at the Court House door in the Town of MONROE, N. C.

Terms to be ten per cent to be paid in cash, one-half the balance to be paid in six months, and balance in twelve months from day of sale. The purchasers giving bond and approved security for the payment of the purchase money.

The tracts to be sold are as follows, viz:

THE HOME TRACT of 800 acres, on Waxhaw Creek, adjoining the lands of Wm. W. Walkup, John N. Davis and others. The BAKER, ATCHISON and IVY tracts, of about 300 acres, adjoining the lands of Samuel P. Walkup, Dr. J. J. Williams and others; The Massey and Potts tracts, on Twelve Mile Creek, adjoining the lands of Dr. Kell, Gordon, and the South Carolina line, about 100 acres; The John Blount tract, of 200 acres; The Weaver tract, of 100 acres; The Matthew McCorkle tract, of 150 acres; The J. S. Ritch tract, of 100 acres, near William Houston, Sr., on Twelve mile creek; And the several lots on Twelve mile creek, in Union county, around what is known as the

STOCKTON OR HOWIE GOLD MINES,

including those very Valuable Gold Mines, viz: The Samuel Howie tract; the Gosson tract; the Burleyson tract; the Newton Howie tract; the McElroy, and Wolf tracts, containing about 1500 or 2000 acres;--to be sold in tracts or lots to suit purchasers.

The celebrated Gold Mine, known as the "Howie or Stockton Gold Mine," is yielded annually, in gold ore, from seventy-five to one hundred thousand pounds and is immensely rich and thought to be inexhaustible, affords a splendid opportunity for capitalists for remunerating investments.

1872.

JOHN N. DAVIS, Commissioner.

Other Union County Mines

Of the remaining mines in the county, shown on the next page, there is some history available around some of them and will be included herein. Possibly there are more stories of these mines somewhere on some records, or in someone's memoirs, however, such information was not able to be found.

In 1936, the Crowell had three veins of variable thickness from one to four feet. The deepest shaft was eighty feet with drifts 50 feet northeast and 60 feet southwest. It also showed a high content of silver.

The Stewart Mine had been explored to a depth of 285 feet by 1936.

A group of other known mines: Moore Hill, Folger Hill, Davis, Phifer, Lewis Hemby and Harkness were worked down to water level - around 50 feet, some to 150 feet. It is reported that these mines produced a large quantity of gold. The Lewis Mine is reported to have had drifts up to 1,000 feet.

The Smart and Fullwood Mines were already closed, in 1839, and were thought to have gone to a depth of 120 feet, producing excellent ore. A second shaft, a quarter of a mile away, went 80 or 90 feet down.

The Lemmons Mine was apparently worked before 1835. Several medium depth shafts were sunk in the area with nuggets what was found there.

As with these other mines, just when they were last worked is not known as the reports are incomplete; and for the Smart and Lemmons Mines, their reports were written in 1853 in *The Mining* magazine and the Stewart report written in 1936.

MINES AND PROSPECTS--(continued)

CABARRUS COUNTY

1. Union Capper
2. Troutman
3. Meakin (Whitney)
4. Isenhour (Whitney)
5. Hamlicutt
6. Conter
7. Hopkins No. 1
8. Cline (Cruse)
9. Hopkins No. 2
10. Helwig
11. Jost Reed
12. Montgomery
13. Allison
14. Fuggart
15. Nash
16. Barshardt and Quaker City
17. Charlie Host and Arey
18. Warehouse and Neville
19. Furness
20. Phoenix
21. Gibb
22. Tucker
23. Sunjers
24. Butler
25. Mirvis-Furr
26. Dun-Roger
27. Harris
28. Spears
29. Pioneer Mills
30. Dixie Queen (Newell)
31. Allen Roger
32. Rocky River
33. Buffalo
34. Ellsworth and Crushy No. 2
35. Nuggot
36. Smith
37. Crayton
38. Allen Furr
39. Barber and Garman
40. Reed

STANLY COUNTY

1. Burringer
2. Mumford (placer)
3. Parker
4. Flat Springs (placer)
5. Crowell
6. Kimball Hall
7. Eady
8. Lowder
9. Huthcock

HEARNE

10. Hearne
11. Ingram (Crawford) (placer)
12. Fosperman (placer)
13. Thompson

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

1. Black Atkile
2. Rigdon Hill
3. Russell and Palmer
4. Coggins (Hichoug)
5. Morris Mountain
6. Steel
7. Crumit
8. Sally Coggins
9. Grandman
10. Troy
11. Reynolds
12. Carter
13. Tybe Saunders
14. Moratock and Worth
15. Harbin
16. Jole, Ueaura (Montgomery), and Martha Washington (Curry)
17. Sedberry
18. Sam Christian

MOORE COUNTY

1. Jackson
2. Cameron (placer)
3. Colton
4. Ritter
5. Bell
6. Sewell
7. Grinnus
8. Mandy
9. Red Hill
10. Cagle, Laurel Hill, Hancock, and Tule
11. Clegg (Wright)
12. Brown and Burns
13. Dry Hollow and Jenkins
14. Richardson
15. Monroe

ANSON COUNTY

1. Hamilton (Bailey)
 - Jesse Cox
- UNION COUNTY
1. Crowell (Bright Light)
 2. Long
 3. Moore (Blue shaft)
 4. Moore (Went)
 5. New South

STEWART

6. Stewart
7. Ford
8. Lemonds
9. Sam Puffer
10. Fox Hill
11. Dulin
12. Seerest
13. Smart
14. Henry Puffer
15. Black
16. Crump
17. Butterfield
18. Brown Hill and Harkness
19. Hemby
20. East Hill and Lewis
21. Puffer and Ore Hill
22. Mint Hill, Folger Hill, and Davis
23. Moore Hill
24. Howie
25. Vinsons Half Acre and Wynn
26. Bonnie Belle
27. McClary
28. Wiley Rogers and Grady Rogers
29. McNeely
30. Nesbitt

SOUTH CAROLINA

CHESTER COUNTY

1. Flint Hill, James Love, and Kennedy
2. Durwin, Wilkens (Wilkey), and Phillips
3. Nott Hill, Norris, and Nuckolls
4. Crucker

UNION COUNTY

1. Nott
2. Thompson (Opbit)
3. West
4. Hogan

YORK COUNTY

1. Campbell
2. Bihille and Jingles
3. Barnett
4. Wilson
5. Little Wilson
6. Wallace (Wallis)
7. Logan
8. Ferguson
9. McChatter
10. Allison, Dickey, and Wynn
11. Torry

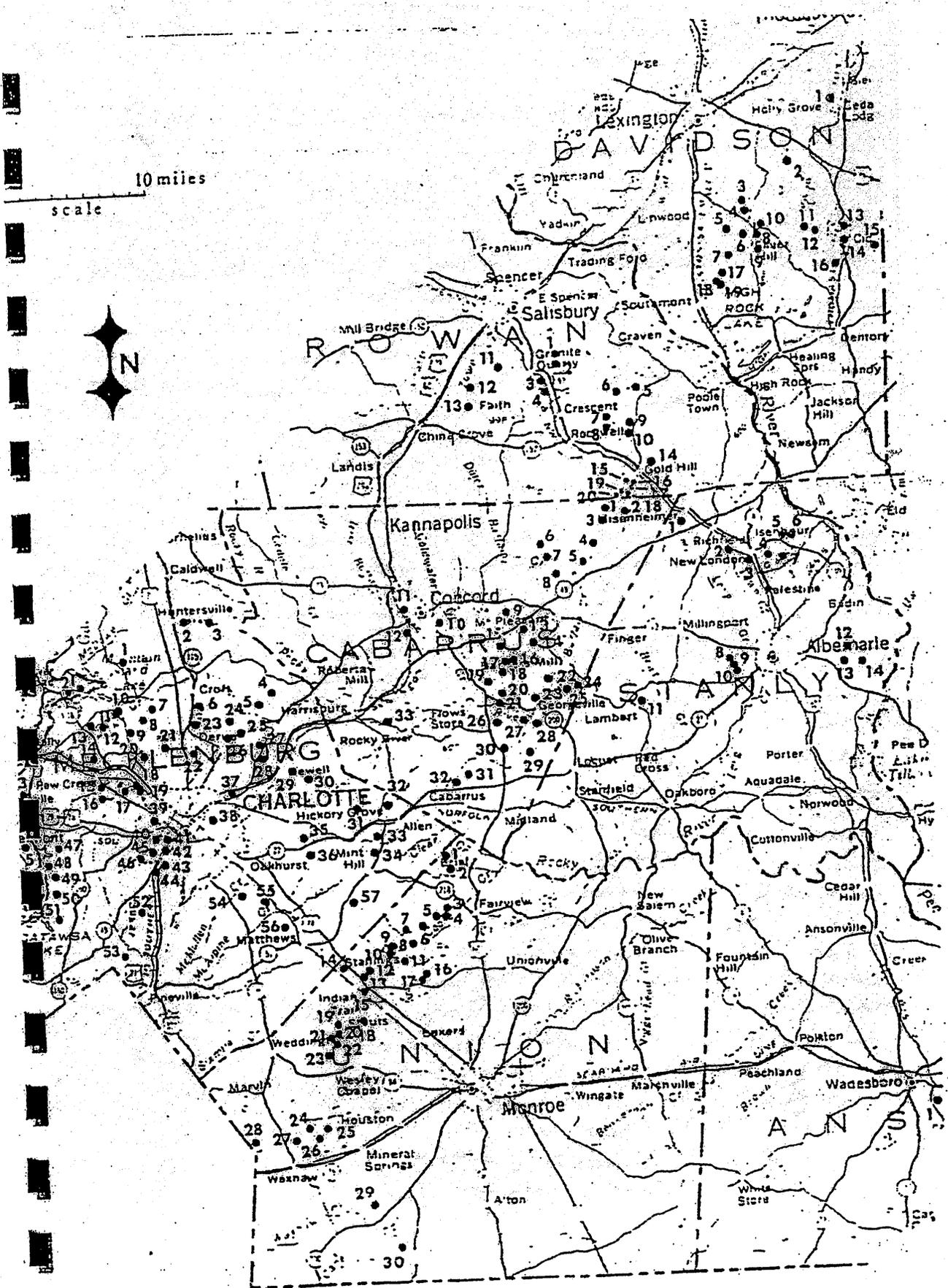
12. Bar Knt
13. Koss and Carroll
14. Hurdin and Cassidy
15. Smith
16. Durwin
17. Wheat
18. La Paire
19. Dorothy
20. Schlegelmitch
21. Merver
22. Magnolia (Smith)
23. Clawson

LANCASTER COUNTY

1. Ezell
2. Ingh
3. Gold Hill (Stabel)
4. Stevens
5. Belk
6. Johnson and Stroud
7. Funderburk
8. Knight
9. Blackmon
10. Puffer
11. Redding
12. Brassington
13. Halle
14. Clyburn (Giny)

CHESTERFIELD COUNTY

1. Edgeworth and Brewer
2. Hendrix
3. Leuch
4. Brewer
5. Kirkley



10 miles

scale



DAVIDSON

ROWAN

CABARRUS

ANSON

CHARLOTTE

Kannapolis

CONCORD

STANTON

ALBEMARLE

MONROE

Wadesboro

ATAWASA

KE

Marvin

Waxhaw

Indian Springs

Wesley Chapel

Waxhaw

Waxhaw

Waxhaw

Matthews



Staff photos. Rick Crider

Memories of an era long gone

There was a day when the Howie gold mine was alive with excitement and the hustle and bustle of activity. Today, the remaining buildings of the gold mine near

Waxhaw sit and deteriorate amidst the undergrowth, reminders of what once was, but likely will never again be.



Today, one sits in the quietness listening for the stories from the rocks telling of a day which shall not return – stories of a long gone segment of life in Union County, segments reserved for the memories and the written word.



STAFF PHOTO, KAREN CRIDE

Scatched and clawed into Union's rocky core

... Pits and shafts stare empty even today

AT PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Deposit Number 2299 Date December 15, 1941
 Depositor Hugh Jardine, Lessee,
 Waxhaw, N.C.

Memos Required Payee-1
 by Depositor Depositor
 Other Data Affs. for 267.30 fine oz.
 "P" Silver

(Revised) SOURCE DATA

State No. Car.
 County Union
 Mine Condon

Description of Deposit	Assay Number	WEIGHTS				ASSAY CERTIFICATE FINENESS			Refin. Ch. Per Oz.	GOLD FINE OZ.	SILVER FINE OZ.
		Before Melt Ounces	Dec	After Melt Ounces	Dec	Gold	Silver	Base			
	2299	230.60		228.90		465	45.7	243	2.	292.438	283.32

PAID BY CHECK
 AS NOTED

NOTE: THIS REPORT IS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE DEPOSITOR AND IS OF NO OTHER VALUE.

Melting 1.00	VALUES, \$	10,235.33	201.47
Refining 15.72	TOTAL CHARGES		42.31
Handling 25.59	NET VALUE		10,394.49
Other Chg.	Bars		
	Cash		
	Check		

Calculator

UNITED STATES MINT
 AT PHILADELPHIA, PA.

BULLION DEPOSIT-MEMO REPORT

Mint Form 42R
 (Revised)
 SOURCE DATA

Deposit Number 2299 Date January 8, 1942
 Depositor Hugh Jardine, Lessee,
 Waxhaw, N.C.

Memos Required Payee-1
 by Depositor Depositor
 Other Data Affs. for 321.00 fine oz.

State No. Car.
 County Union
 Mine Condon

Description of Deposit	Assay Number	WEIGHTS				ASSAY CERTIFICATE FINENESS			Refin. Ch. Per Oz.	GOLD FINE OZ.	SILVER FINE OZ.
		Before Melt Ounces	Dec	After Melt Ounces	Dec	Gold	Silver	Base			
	2373	720.60		719.32					316.233	354.53	

PAID BY CHECK
 AS NOTED

NOTE: THIS REPORT IS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE DEPOSITOR AND IS OF NO OTHER VALUE.

Melting 1.00	VALUES, \$	11,055.29	222.71
Refining 17.98	TOTAL CHARGES		16.65
Handling 27.67	NET VALUE		11,273.61
Other Chg.	Bars		
	Cash		
	Check		

Calculator

AT PHILADELPHIA, PA.

BULLION

SOURCE DATA

Deposit Number 3580 Date May 6, 1942
 Depositor Hugh Jardine, Lessee,
 Waxhaw, N.C.

Memos Required Payee-1
 by Depositor Depositor-1
 Other Data Affs. for 124.47 fine oz.
 "P" silver

State North Carolina
 County Union
 Mine Condon

Description of Deposit	Assay Number	WEIGHTS				ASSAY CERTIFICATE FINENESS			Refin. Ch. Per Oz.	GOLD FINE OZ.	SILVER FINE OZ.
		Before Melt Ounces	Dec	After Melt Ounces	Dec	Gold	Silver	Base			
Bar (N.C.) #27	3696	427.36		425.60		630	511	352	4	277.503	132.67

PAID BY CHECK
 AS NOTED

NOTE: THIS REPORT IS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE DEPOSITOR AND IS OF NO OTHER VALUE.

Melting 1.00	VALUES, \$	9,712.60	94.34
Refining 17.66	TOTAL CHARGES		42.34
Handling 24.28	NET VALUE		9,764.60
Other Chg.	Bars		
	Cash		
	Check		

Calculator

\$35 per Ounce

Other sources of valuable information are:

- * George Winchester's Writings
- * "Gold Deposits in South Piedmont"
- * "Farmer's Mining and Farming Journal"
- * "Carolina Gold Rush" – Roberts
- * "Mining Magazine"
- * "NC Geological Surveys"
- * "American Journal of Science"
- * "Mine Descriptions"
- * "Metallic Mineral Deposits of the Carolina Slate Belt"
- * "The Monroe Journal"
- * "The Monroe Enquirer Journal"
- * Union and Mecklenburg Courthouse – Deeds and Records

Other Individuals:

- * J.L. Plattenberger
- * Frank Watson
- * Charles Jacoby
- * Gary Gemes
- * Clarence Wallace
- * Thomas Austin
- * Clara McDonald
- * Mike Smith
- * John Rissenen

Stock Prospectus and Offerings – 1880 and 1912 for both Howie and Pennman Mines